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INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD MEMBERS VISIT LIMA

PY072335 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Representatives of the Inter-American Defense Board [IADB] have arrived in Lima for a 2-day visit to give a course on continental defense. The delegation, headed by Adm (Archibald Vastrofer) is made up of 53 persons who represent 17 countries of the IADB.

CARTAGENA AGREEMENT BOARD REPORTS DROP IN TRADE

PY081226 Paris AFP in Spanish 0342 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 3 Mar (AFP) -- According to an evaluation made by the Cartagena Agreement Board, trade among Andean Group countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) has had an increase of only 3.6 percent during the past 3 years.

The technical organization of the integration process indicated that between 1969 and 1975 trade among these countries increased 30 percent and that between 1976 and 1980 it increased only 25 percent.

Although world recession has affected the Andean Group as all other countries, this situation should have stimulated trade among the five members of the pact, but it did not happen, the Cartagena Agreement Board stated.

It points out as causes of this inter-Andean trade decrease; changes in the national economic policies before the crisis with the delay of Andean Group commitments; implementation of defense mechanisms of the local markets and the pessimism regarding the development of the international situation which discourages investments.

Inter-Andean trade was also adversely affected by the prices of transnational enterprises. It indicated, for example, that Andean trade of petrochemical products, which increased 60 percent between 1979 and 1980, decreased 13 percent in 1981 as a result of the dumping by these enterprises. The same thing happened in the steel industry. Japan offered steel at $330 per ton although its production cost reaches $300 and must add $80 for freight. Steel produced in the Andean region costs $420 per ton, the board stated.

SELA NUTRITIONAL MEETING OPENS IN BUENOS AIRES

PY071741 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] A meeting of the Latin American Economic System, SELA; began in Buenos Aires today. Representatives of 25 [Latin] American countries are participating in the meeting, which will close on Wednesday.

During the meeting, a committee of action will be created to guarantee the region's nutritional security through the establishment of an adequate system.

The meeting began at the General San Martin cultural center, 1551 Sarmiento Street, shortly before noon. Victor Hugo Santirso, agriculture and livestock secretary and (Augusto Losa), regional cooperation director of the Agriculture and Livestock Secretariat, delivered speeches during the opening session.

NICOLAIDES EMPHASIZES SPECIFIC ROLE OF ARMY

PY082258 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Excerpt] The commander in chief of the army, Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides, gave a press conference in Puerto Iguazu, Misiones, before departing for Formosa, today. The military chief said that all Argentines can remain completely calm because the army is 100 percent involved in its specific duties.

He also said that the first anniversary of the heroic Malvinas deed will be celebrated on 4 April and that it will be a national civil and military celebration.

Regarding the socioeconomic situation, Nicolaides said that this is undoubtedly a delicate situation, emphasizing the concern of both civilians and military in finding a solution to this problem affecting everyone without distinction.

NICOLAIDES GIVES VIEWS ON INSTITUTIONALIZATION

PY081348 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Mar 83 p 4

[Capitalized words denote boldface as published]

[Excerpt] YESTERDAY, ARMY COMMANDER IN CHIEF CRISTINO NICOALIDES GAVE ASSURANCES TO ALL GENERALS ON ACTIVE DUTY THAT "THE ARMY WILL REMOVE EVERY OBSTACLE ALONG THE ROAD TOWARD THE COUNTRY'S DEMOCRATIZATION."

However, the military leader WARNED THE GENERALS AGAINST "DISRUPTIVE FACTORS" in the institutionalization process and he SAID THAT THE SERVICEMEN'S ACTIONS IN THE "IRREVERSIBLE" SEARCH FOR DEMOCRATIZATION WILL BE BASED ON THE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY THE VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE COUNTRY TOWARD THOSE FACTORS.

The brigadier and major generals on active duty posted throughout the country held their first meeting of the year at the Libertador building yesterday. The meeting was called to give the generals an updated report on various issues pertaining to the process, the status of the economy and the democratization plan.

NAVY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON UNITAS MANEUVERS

PY090148 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0020 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentina will not participate in the XXIV Unitas naval operation, since it considers that the ambiguous behavior of the United States reflects a wholly contradictory policy, a policy opposed to the spirit of strict and loyal cooperation implied by a combined operation.

The Washington government justified its support for Great Britain during the [Falklands] conflict by invoking its respect for the principle of not using force for the solution of territorial conflicts, forgetting, however, the obligations imposed on it through the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) to the countries of the Inter-American system. Those obligations are the bases which gave origin and continuity to the Unitas operations.

This is stated in a communique released tonight by the General Secretariat of the Argentine Navy. The communique says that after the de facto cessation of hostilities, the United States decided to support a solution through peaceful negotiations and to uphold the principle that this is the means for solving territorial conflicts.

The Navy communique continues: "It continues, however, to give Great Britain material assistance through the unlimited use of Ascencion Island, thereby making it possible to continuously reinforce the Malvinas Islands, in opposition to the principles the United States claims to uphold and to which it committed itself by voting for the UN and OAS resolutions."

The communique concludes by saying that the ambiguity of the behavior of the United States reflects an absolutely contradictory policy since, on the one hand, it states that it supports solutions through peaceful negotiation while, on the other, it gives effective support to one of the contenders and limits the possibilities of our country through the enforcement of the Humphrey-Kennedy amendment which, in addition, contains principles which are tantamount to an unacceptable attempt to interfere in our internal affairs.

NAVY COMMANDER PLEDGES TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY

PY080123 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1345 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Mar (TELAM) -- Adm Ruben Oscar Franco, commander in chief of the Argentine Navy, today said that "no one should doubt that we will not cease our efforts until we restore the full validity of the Constitution" and added that "the Navy will never again use force to overrule the will of the citizenry."

"The vote and the ballot box will decide the government that the people want. After the politicians have been in office for a term, the citizenry will amend or reaffirm its will through the same channels," Admiral Franco said. He added that "this is a right which the Navy will never again overrule by force. It is a right which no one will force us to give up."

This remark was part of the speech which the commander in chief of the Navy made today during the homage paid to Adm Guillermo Brown's memory at the heliport of the Libertad building on the 126th anniversary of the hero's death.

Admiral Franco started his speech by extolling Admiral Brown, whom he described as Argentina's greatest naval hero and the best example of what a man can do when he has a clear understanding of the significance of doing for others during a lifetime; make it possible to live amid freedom in a democratic brotherhood.

"We clearly understand the difference between a forceful government and a government of force. Force never has permanent power, which is achieved only through concensus," the naval chief said. He went on to explain that "we shall not give up until the Constitution, restored to full validity, lays down rights and duties." He stressed the preamble to the Constitution which outlines the objective of strengthening peace and promoting the general well-being.

After pointing out that the whole world is now experiencing an economic crisis and that the huge debts that the nations have contracted are restrictive and undermine the purchasing power of the citizens, the member of the ruling military junta said that "our serious economic situation is the result of these circumstances in addition to our own mistakes, which will have to be corrected as often as necessary."

He said: "There is a true need for political trust. The Argentines must believe that we will achieve a constitutional government within the announced timetable." He added that "once the people are assured on this, their feelings will stop fluctuating between hope and disbelief. We must strengthen this trust." He also said that 1976 and 1984 will be historical dates in the memory of the people; "1976 as the last advent of the armed forces to power, and 1984 as the landmark of a historical and political period of a nation which was able to bring about final vitory at a very high price."

The Navy commander in chief asked all Argentines "to work for the fatherland making anonymous sacrifices every day" and added that "this is a challenge for patriots who do not give up their daily quota of good will and commonsense, always inspired by the inalienable desire to further the progress of the nation."

He reaffirmed that "the people must not allow their morale to falter; our path toward democracy and a stable political system must not be distorted; let us not mortgage the victory which we deserve."

After pointing out that the feeling for the fatherland must not be tattered, Franco recalled that "deep-rooted political divisions of the past had caused brother to fight brother and covered the nation with blood in what -- in those far-off days whose sorrow is still fresh in our minds -- Brown described as a barbarous onslaught against civilization and an attack launched by crime against order."

He went on to say: "Heirs to this vital ideal, the men of arms, trained to display steady behavior under extreme duress, do not lose their ability to be sensitive toward the need to defend life; and we will defend it staunchly every time that terrorism, which stands for death, attacks our nation. No one can free us of this responsibility because it involves defending a way of life."

Finally, after further extolling Admiral Brown whose legend, he said, is part of our history, the commander in chief of the Navy reaffirmed the Navy's commitment to the nation and its history; "no one should doubt that we will not cease our efforts until we restore the full validity of the Constitution. The vote and the ballot box will decide the government that the people want. After the politicians have been in office for a term, the citizenry will amend or reaffirm its will through the same channels.

"This is a right which the Navy will never again overrule by force, it is a right which no one will force us to give up. We stake our privilege; the honor of being sailors, untiring guardians of the republican fatherland who also desire democratic rule once and for all," he said. He concluded by saying that "we should not forget that the only revolution of man, the only revolution ever, is the revolution of those who want to be free."

The ceremony, chaired by Admiral Franco, was also attended by Supreme Court President Adolfo Gabrielli, Buenos Aires Mayor Guilelrmo del Cioppo, Navy Chief of Staff Vice Adm Pablo Carpintero, Military Chaplain Msgr Jose Miguel Edina, and Foreign Under Secretary Enrique Lupiz.

RETIRED OFFICERS PUNISHED WITH 30-DAY ARREST

PY082237 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1802 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- Military sources confirmed at noon today that retired officers, members of the Executive Board of the Association of Officers of the Armed Forces, had been arrested for 30 days.

The officers were reportedly punished because of a document which this association forwarded to the military junta toward the end of January.

Maj Gen (ret) Federico Toranzo Montero, who is the chairman of the Association of Officers of the Armed Forces, was also arrested for 30 days.

The document forwarded to the military junta, among other things, said -- referring to the criticism of the Armed Forces -- that "those actions undermining our prestige, in our opinion, have not been officially and appropriately rejected or denied." It also said that "the government has lost control of the situation."

BIGNONE CITES NONALIGNED AIMS AT NEWS CONFERENCE

PY071715 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2058 GMT 6 Mar 83

[By special correspondent. Quotation marks as received]

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Mar (TELAM) -- On referring to the activities carried out in India and to the prospects for the nonaligned meeting, the president of the nation stated today that, in addition to this being an exciting international experience, all the steps taken thus far have been highly rewarding and highly positive.

General Bignone made it a point of stating that President Arap Moi did not snub him during his stopover in Kenya, as reported by some media.

Only a few hours before the beginning of the seventh summit meeting of Nonaligned heads of state, President Bignone granted a press conference to special correspondents from various medias at the Argentine ambassador's residence.

The Argentine foreign minister and top San Martin Palace officials also participated in the press conference, which was held prior to a meeting for scheduling Bignone's interviews with other heads of state during the week.

Asked about the Argentine mission's expectations regarding the conference and, obviously, whether the Malvinas issue would be included in the conference's agenda, President Bignone stated that I have good reason to believe that the Malvinas issue will be discussed. However, he said, we should act with warmth, feeling and dedication, and I think we should not believe in easy victories.

As for his meeting with Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi, a prominent figure at the conference because of her position as president of the movement, Bignone stated that she frankly supports the Argentine cause, something which makes us feel very satisfied.

General Bignone also stated that he will not deliver his speech at the conference's opening session tomorrow as a political spokesman for the group, but in the name of Latin America's support for the Indian prime minister's designation as president of the movement for a 4-year period [as received]. Bignone will deliver his speech prior to those of Fidel Castro and Indira Ghandi.

During the fluid press conference, where the Argentine foreign minister also made some statements, General Bignone clarified some aspects of his visit to Kenya, where he was met by Kenyan Vice President Mwai Kibaki.

Without losing the smile on his face, the Argentine president told the journalists that I do not know where you got that business about President Moi's snub for not meeting me from. Fortunately, he added, the Kenyan president's room at the hotel is two doors away from mine. I will talk with him tonight and we will straighten things out.

Bignone stated that Moi could not go to the airport, and I understand because he had to attend to domestic affairs just as any other president. Besides, many other heads of state were making stopovers in Kenya within a very short frame of time.

In conclusion, he said he was annoyed by the repercussions of some press reports in Buenos Aires. After saying that these reports may have carried grist for Great Britain's mills, Bignone stated that things like these are difficult or almost impossible to reverse.

At another point of the press conference, President Bignone referred to the meeting held today with Mozambican President Moises Samora Machel, who impressed him as a very educated person who is fully aware of the Malvinas issue.

This was the first meeting Bignone held with other nonaligned presidents in New Delhi. "I expect to hold many others," Bignone stated, adding that the pressure that Great Britain is applying on most of the nonaligned countries is considerable but that the integrity of the small countries that are with us is even greater.

"Machel," Bignone stated, "is incredibly well aware of the development of the Malvinas issue. We had no problems in getting through to each other because he speaks Portuguese, as Mozambique is a former Portuguese colony."

More on Summit Strategy

FYO82229 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1137 GMT 8 Mar 83

[By special correspondent]

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Since the days of the preparatory meeting before the Nonaligned Summit, the Argentine strategy -- referred to as active and responsible participation by Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari when giving precise instructions to his team -- has been to play an active and conciliatory role in dealing with the most divergent points of view, so that Argentina's presence could be felt while becoming a party available for consultation to the other attending countries.

Within the subtle web of interests which are not always apparent, even less so to the uninitiated, Argentina has chosen from the vast range of subjects to be discussed here to take up the subject of disarmament and international security before dealing with the Malvinas issue. Argentina's sights are set on including its views on disarmament and international security in the declaration to be issued at the end of the meeting.

Today our special correspondent interviewed Roberto Garcia Moritan, Argentine expert on the subject who normally acts as Argentine representative to the Commission for Disarmament headquartered in Geneva. This commission is made up of 40 countries and is not part of the United Nations.

Garcia Moritan agrees with the entire Argentine delegation that "the Malvinas, undoubtedly, is the main subject, but it is well known that an effective strategy must not be based on one subject only, since by neglecting other issues which are just as important to the nonaligned countries, Argentina would lose the consensus sought within the bloc."

These subjects are not arbitrary choices since the Nonaligned Movement traditionally has had two priority issues; decolonization and disarmament. This has been shown during other summits and meetings of the Coordinating Bureau.

Garcia Moritan commented that so far there seems to be a firm determination by the great majority of the countries to include paragraphs in the final declaration referring to the need to stop the arms race, as has been done in the past.

One of Argentina's proposals (so far it has made more than 15), for example, was that as long as the development of nuclear technology in the developing countries pursues peaceful purposes, it should not be restricted.

Garcia Moritan pointed out that "nowadays countries such as ours and most of the countries of the Asian bloc are forced to diversify their energy sources. Many times the great powers believe that perverse intentions are involved when this legitimate need is being met and as a consequence impose corresponding barriers. Without violating diplomatic secrecy, which seems to be the common denominator for all the delegations, Argentina's strategy will probably be to make its opinion known and offer proposals or abstain from taking any position on various issues, some of which have nothing to do with our main objective -- the islands.

For example, when the subject of a nuclear-free zone -- a subject of great interest to the countries of the Indian Ocean -- was discussed during the preparatory meeting, Argentina maintained a determined position which compelled the representatives of that area to act! The official delegation, later, assessed the issue and saw no problem in relinquishing its position favoring the Asian countries, with the consent of the interested parties.

As the Malvinas issue -- greatly delayed due to discussions over the Kampuchea and Iran-Iraq issues -- makes its way up on the list of subjects, the give-and-take strategy of the Argentine delegation becomes more intense, always with the purpose of yielding in order to gain. We are achieving our objective.

BANK OPENS LINE OF CREDIT FOR NICARAGUA TRADE

PY081945 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0150 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (TELAM) -- The Argentine Central Bank today notified financial firms that a line of credit for $15 million, renewable for a similar amount, has been opened for the Nicaraguan Central Bank to finance the purchase of Argentine goods and services. Depending on the type of assets exported, a downpayment of between 10 and 20 percent of the FOB value will be made at the port of loading and the rest will be collected over a period from 1 to 10 years at the annual interest rate of 7.5 percent. The accord, which was signed in Buenos Aires on 28 January, also provides that the goods exported under the terms of this accord will be carried by Argentine and Nicaraguan planes and ships on a 50-50 basis.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS PRIVATE DEBT PAYMENT

PY081415 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1939 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (DYN) -- The Argentine Government today formally decided to suspend the payment of private debts to foreign creditors amounting to some $1.4 billion, by postponing "indefinitely the due date" of debts related to "swaps" which will fall due in March and April. This drastic decision was relayed by the Central Bank to firms allowed to handle financial transaction abroad this morning. The decision was made known in telephone communique No 4822 which created considerable confusion on the market because of its absolute lack of specific details.

The communique pointed out that "as of today and until new regulations about renewing swaps are released, it has been decided that forward-exchange contracts covering swap operations be temporarily extended without setting a new due date, and that the payment of future exchange rates which fall due be suspended. The brief communique added that "the new regulations which will be established soon will be applied to these operations whenever they are renewed."

These types of operations have been totally frozen, both for foreign payments due and for their domestic obligations; leading to a general confusion, which is worsened by the uncertainty about the payment of interest to be accrued by these orginally short-term loans -- payments which up to this point could be handled normally.

RELATIONS WITH U.S. VIEWED BEFORE GUERREIRO TRIP

U.S. Africa Visit Described

PY080152 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, who will leave on Wednesday for Washington, stated today in a press conference that he is not taking any special request from the Brazilian Government to the United States. He added that the meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on work groups on science and technology will certainly yield more immediate results.

After visiting Washington, the foreign minister will visit three African countries: Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast and Gabon. On these visits, Saraiva Guerreiro explained that Brazil is greatly interested in its relations with African nations. He said these relations must be maintained.

New Military Accord Denied

PY080155 Paris AFP in Spanish 0021 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro here today denied that his country is going to sign a new military cooperation accord with the United States.

In the course of a press conference the minister, who is traveling to the United States at the end of the week in order to discuss with his U.S. counterpart George Shultz the creation of joint working groups for trade, finance, science and technology, industry and arms and space, explained that these working groups will merely make an objective analysis of the status of cooperation between the two nations and will try to discover new fields for cooperation.

The Brazilian minister summed up by saying that in the military field, the establishment of a working group does not imply that a military cooperation accord similar to the one that was in effect prior to 1977 will be signed.

Basis for Cooperation With U.S.

PY080146 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Mar 83 p 6

[Text] Brasilia -- Brasil is not interested in signing another military accord with the United States. The cooperation which President Ronald Reagan offered during his visit will be of interest to the Brazilian Government only if it includes the transfer of technology in the field of military industry.

Brazil's position in this regard will be conveyed to U.S. Secretary of State Geroge Shultz by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro during the meeting which the two will hold in Washington on 11 March.

Itamaraty sources believe that Brazil's attitude toward military, scientific, technological, space, economic and nuclear energy cooperation with the United States will change to some extent the relationship betwen the two nations.

One Brazilian diplomat has explained that President Ronald Reagan's visit to Brazil and his constructive remarks concerning mutual understanding show the desire of the United States to negotiate, emphasizing points in common in order to downplay still prevailing disagreements.

The diplomats feel that from a realistic point of view the United States cannot be ignored, even if Brazil continues to play up its Third World policy. As a gesture, Foreign Minister Guerreiro will visit three African nations -- Gabon, New Guinea [as published] and the Ivory Coast -- immediately after his meeting with George Shultz.

Seeking to provide a simple picture of the situation another Brazilian diplomat said that the ball is now in the U.S. court and the game will be resumed this month. He went on to say that the game has not been delayed at all. There was only one snag: Assistant Secretary Thomas Enders' visit to Brasilia scheduled for 19 February and postponed for yet to be disclosed reasons.

The same diplomat believes that working groups will design the path for cooperation within the deadline which has been set for November. Each working group will be made up of some 10 Brazilian experts and the same number of Americans. All in all, 100 persons will get together to set up the mechanisms for bilateral cooperation, transferring the agreements reached at higher government level to the ministries and later to the business sector.

Military Sectors on Cooperation

PY080158 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Mar 83 p 7

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Brazilian Aeronautics Minister Brigadier General Delio Jardim de Mattos told O GLOBO yesterday that, from the point of view of the Air Force, exchange with the United States is aimed at acquiring new technology. He emphasized that cooperation with the United States in the field of aeronautics should focus on developing Brazilian aeronautic activities and helping to broaden the field of action for national industry. The minister said that during his trip to the United States he will "keep his eyes open for possibilities of exchange and military cooperation with the United States."

Brigadier General Waldir Vasconcelos, Armed Forces chief of staff, said that there are possibilities for greater military cooperation between Brazil and the United States. General Waldir admitted the possibility of increasing military cooperation with the United States, including the field of military industries of both nations, in order to improve the technological capabilities of Brazilian enterprises.

Foreign Debt Viewed

PY081551 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has said that he does not support the idea of collective negotiations regarding the foreign debt. These collective negotiations would bring together the main creditor and debtor countries. The way the foreign minister understands it, the structure of the foreign debt of each country is different, and so foreign debts must be analyzed on a country-by-country basis. As for the Brazilian foreign debt, the foreign minister is confident about the results of current negotiations, but if they fail, the minister added, the failure will affect both developed and developing countries. Minister Guerreiro made these remarks during a press conference he granted to talk about his upcoming trips to the United States and Africa, beginning Wednesday [9 March]. The minister said that he is not carrying any new loan requests to Washington.

BANK PRESIDENT FEARS FINANCIAL 'DISTORTIONS'

PY080233 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Mar 83 p 17

[Text] Brasilia -- "Today we have enough to live on. Brazil must get ready to make every adjustment necessary to cope with possible distortions that could take place, for example with exports as a result of new cuts in imports." This brief diagnosis that Central Bank President Carlos Langoni made yesterday in the course of a press conference, followed what he described as "financial alchemy" (the combination of the country's liabilities and credits which the nation obtained for this year through negotiations held during the last few days on the financial market) and a report on the "distortions" of current accounts (amounting to some $800 million) which took place during the first 2 months of this year."

Langoni explained that "the distortions were caused basically by low foreign sales in January and February and by the fact that only $535 billion of the loans contracts last year due to be disbursed this year, were received. According to Langoni this more than justified the 30-percent devaluation aimed at "preventing the distortions from accumulating in March thus jeopardizing the projected balancing of payments perhaps to the extent of forcing a suspension of payments abroad and having to resort to a moratorium."

Langoni said that the plan to finance the balance of payments could have been moved forward by signing, in mid-January, projects No 1 and 2, that is, the "jumbo" loan of $4,415,000,000 ($15 million more than originally planned) and the renegotiation of $4 billion in amortization payments due. The decision to implement the overall accord, that is, to implement all four projects at the same time, "was voluntary," according to Langoni. He said that a quicker solution "would imply a strong intervention of the Central Bank in Brazilian banks abroad, which would mean virtual state control over the external Brazilian financial system.

According to the president of the Central Bank, this was the reason for arranging an overall accord that included the complicated project No 4, which is rearrangement of interbank lines of credit (loans from foreign banks to branches of Brazilian banks abroad), which now amount to $6.5 billion (Brazil was originally asking for $10 billion and then agreed to accept $7 billion). The Central Bank president expects to reestablish a fund of $8 billion on the interbank market "in order to increase liquidity and allow us to cope with possible distortions of the balance of payments." Langoni emphasized that "However, there will be no formal commitment from the foreign banks," and added that project No 3 -- to maintain commerical lines of credit at approximately $8.8 billion -- has already yielded approximately $10 billion.

BID TO DELAY REPAYMENTS REPORTEDLY REJECTED

BIS Rejects Postponement

PY080214 Paris AFP in Spanish 1921 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] Basil, Switzerland, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Fritz Leutwiller, president of the Bank for International Settlements [BIS], reported today in Brasil that Brazil could not obtain a postponement of the deadline to pay the first installment of $400 million of the $1.2 billion credit granted to Brazil by the central banks of the industrialized nations.

This loan was granted to Brazil this past autumn through the BIS.

Carlos Langoni, president of the Brazilian Central Bank, stated last week that he had asked for an extension of the deadline to pay for this loan. The BIS granted this credit while brazil was waiting for the conclusion of negotiations with the IMF.

Postponement Rejection Denied

PY082253 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] The Central Bank denied in Brasilia yesterday that the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) had turned down a new request for the postponement of the deadline to pay the first installment ($400 million) on the emergency loan of $1.2 billion granted to Brazil at the end of last year. An AFP report from basil, Switzerland, quoting BIS President Fritz Leutwiller himself reported the BIS rejection of Brazil's request.

The first installment of the credit was to fall due on 28 February, but it was postponed until 15 May.

The Central Bank confirmed that it made a new request for postponement until June but it has not yet received an answer. Brazil requested a new deadline because exports are below the expected levels.

SENATE TO CALL PLANNING, FINANCE MINISTERS

PY082337 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Mar 83

[From the Congressional Report]

[Excerpt] By request of PDS [Social Democratic Party] leader Allysio Chaves, the Senate decided today to call Planning Minister Delfim Netto and Finance Minister Ernane Galveas to report before the full Senate on the Brazilian foreign debt and its administration by the government.

This request was approved after a lengthy debate among leaders Humberto Lucena of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] Roberto Saturnino of the PDT [Democratic Labor Party] and Senators Murilo Badaro, Itamar Franco and Luiz Cavalcante representing the PDS, with additional remarks by Senators Helio Guerreiros, Pedro Simon, Carlos Alberto and Virgilio Tavora.

DELIVERY OF NUCLEAR PLANTS' EQUIPMENT POSTPONED

PY081929 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Mar 83 p 25

[Excerpt] The Brazilian Nuclear Corporation (Nuclebras) has postponed for 1 year the delivery date for the order placed with Brazilian industry -- the consortium Cobrasma, Bardella and Confab [expansions unknown] -- for manufacturing equipment for the Angra II and III nuclear energy projects. This contract represents an investment of $100 million. Brazilian industry will supply 30 percent of the total equipment for the two plants.

Since the production schedule for some of that equipment was behind schedule, the national enterprises will now be able to deliver the equipment on time due to the postponement of the nuclear program signed with the FRG. In 1979 the consortium Barbella, Cobrasma and Confab signed a protocol with Nuclebras, but its terms were never fulfilled.

DAILY VIEWS ARGENTINE INACTION ON BEAGLE ISSUE

PY082322 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 27 Feb 83 p A 3

[Editorial: "Argentina and the Mediation"]

[Text] The news from Buenos Aires does not lead us to believe that the Argentine Government will soon accept the recommendations that the mediator submitted to the two concerned parties in 1980. President Bignone's administration seems to be willing to reach an agreement with Chile on the basis of the papal recommendations, but subject to the approval of the Congress that should be elected in October of this year.

The agreement with reportedly be reached if Chile agrees to establish geographical landmarks as reference points for the demarkation of the respective jursidictional waters, particularly to establish the division line between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The establishment of this line will coincide with the Cape Horn Meridan, despite what is specifically established in Article 3 of the 1881 treaty which states that "all the islands located south of the Beagle Channel will belong to Chile."

On their part, most political parties hope that the military will hand over power without the heavy burden of this international controversy that was created when the government of General Videla decided to reject the arbitration award of the British crown in 1977.

This struggle between political parties and the government over passing the responsibility of accepting the papal recommendations from one to the other delays a decision that should have been made a long time ago.

Subjecting approval of the agreement to a yet-to-be elected Congress, whose leanings and procedures are still unknown, may delay a decision for many years. Under these circumstances, it is not very odd that various Argentine factions are resorting to the most unusual and arbitrary measures to support their position. Through "rumors" and through their news agencies, they are constantly reporting about alleged decisions regarding this delicate issue. Recently, Chileans were informed through a report originating in Argentina, of an alleged suspension of the mediation process. After noting that the Chilean Government had no knowledge of this decision Colonel Ernesto Videla, chief of the Chilean delegation to the papal mediation, noted that this kind of information "creates an unsuitable atmosphere."

It is difficult to comment on the mediation issue without knowing the exact terms of the papal propose, since we base our opinion solely on Argentine "rumors."

The Vatican has kept strict secrecy concerning the recommendations submitted by the mediator. Only the general outline is known and we know that the recommendations are believed to be "just, equitable and honorable." Keeping these recommendations secret while negotiations were being carried was understandable. But once they were submitted to the parties involved and particularly, in view of the delay on the part of Argentina in answering them, Argentine demands to amend them and the atmosphere that Argentina is determined to create to hinder the process, perhaps the time has come for the pope to make these recommendations public since this will undoubtedly turn public opinion in his favor.

The holy father should do this and also appeal to the parties involved so as to force them to achieve an agreement that will end with the unfortunate distancing of two neighboring and friendly countries.

BISHOP KIDNAPPING TIED TO PLA GUERRILLA GROUP

PA090125 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] A guerrilla organization, not common criminals, kidnapped the Texas Petroleum Company's exploration manager, Kenneth Bishop. Investigations by state security organizations revealed that the kidnapping was carried out by the Pedro Leon Arboleda Urban Command, PLA. There is no lead, however, to the whereabouts of the victim and his captors. Bishop was captured at 7th Ave and 104th St yesterday morning. Bishop has been living in Colombia approximately 24 years, is married to a Colombian woman and father of two children. The search for him has intensified, with at least four security organizations participating at the special request of President Belisario Betancur.

BETANCUR DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S NONALIGNED ROLE

PA081413 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] Colombia can now speak with more authority on behalf of our country with other countries, for example those of Central America and the Caribbean, which are seeking a common objective of justice in all fields, President Belisario Betancur said on learning of the decision in New Delhi admitting Colombia to the Nonaligned Movement.

[Begin Betancur recording] Colombia was admitted today as a member with full rights of the Nonaligned Movement during the seventh summit meeting being held in New Delhi. This decision opens a new phase in our international policy, reaffirming our sovereignty, making it more dynamic and more participative in relation to developments taking place every day in the great world arena, developments to which Colombia can no longer be a passive spectator.

Colombia has much to say about its problems, about the problems of Latin America and the Caribbean and about the world's problems in general. Colombia reached this historic decision after a consultation that honors its multiparty tradition in matters of international policy.

This decision was unanimously approved by the members of the Foreign Ministry Advisory Commission, including former Presidents Misael Pastrana Borrero and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen; by Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, presidential designate and Colombian ambassador to the United States; and by the liberal and conservative members of Congress. This decision has also been praised by important movements and groups.

As a full member of the Nonaligned Movement, honoring the objectives of those who founded that noble organization for peace and development, Colombia will speak with more authority on behalf of our people with other peoples, for instance, the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean, who are seeking the common objective of justice in all fields. [end recording]

MINISTER SAYS COUNTRY WILL FAVOR $34 OIL PRICE

PA070357 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 6 Mar 83

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Gustavo Galindo said just before boarding the plane that would take him to Paris that Ecuador's position at the OPEC meeting to begin in Paris on Monday will be to maintain the current oil price, that is, $34 a barrel. Galindo, who traveled yesterday in the company of the assistant marketing manager of the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, insisted that this will not be a special meeting but that there is a good possibility that a such a meeting could be called. He said: This will be simply a consultation meeting among ministers, and we are going to talk with some of them. Regarding Ecuador's position at this meeting, the minister said that considering the country's economic situation, an effort will be made to maintain the present price. He said that right now there are some points of reference in the market, and this is precisely whathe is going to talk about with other OPEC ministers, to see what possibilities there are for maintaining the current price.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA082355 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Student demonstrators have blocked traffic near the Central Bank since early this morning. The students, mainly from the Mejia secondary school, are protesting the economic measures and the possibility of new ones, and have been responsible for the incidents which have recently recurred in this capital. The private and urban service vehicles had to use adjacent streets, while police using teargas dispersed the demonstrations staged by secondary school students.

MINISTER ON IMPORTANCE OF NONALIGNED SUMMIT

PA081400 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez explained that economic considerations will be a main point of discussion at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit. Two important committees have been formed to focus on the international economy. Valencia said that Ecuador and other countries will insist on the need to reestablish the North-South global negotiations and to establish a new international economic order. Valencia added that this New Delhi meeting is very important because the peaceful solution to controversies will also be discussed. This is a subject that interests all nonaligned countries. Valencia said that Ecuador will declare its well-known position on territorial waters. He added that the Foreign Ministry prepared the necessay documents on this subject before the government minister's trip.

BRIEFS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE -- The Argiculture and Livestock Ministry has prohibited the movement of cattle in the country in view of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease on 23 ranches in Carchi and Imbabura Provinces. The ministry has declared a quarantine and has prohibited cattle fairs until the situation improves. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 83 PA] New outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease have been detected in Pichincha and Cotopaxi. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Mar 83 PA]

ARMED FORCES MIGHT BE WITHDRAWN FROM AYACUCHO

PY081254 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Mar 83 p A 4

[Text] Yesterday, President Fernando Belaunde hinted at the possibility that the Armed Forces might be withdrawn from Ayacucho soon upon stating that the government is studying the possibility of leaving the control of the emergency situation in Ayacucho to the police forces only. Belaunde added that this possibility has been studied because the Armed Forces and the police cannot remain in the emergency area together. President Belaunde stated that if the civil guard is to stay in the area, it will have to be equipped with better communications equipment and given better transportation and more flexibility because it has to control a considerably large area. The president made these statements during a coordinating meeting with the Development Corporation [Corde] of Ayacucho held at the Tupac Amaru Hall of Government House last night.

President Belaunde also told the Corde members, the mayor of Huamanga and other authorities of Ayacucho that Ayacucho schools will not be closed this year despite "shining Path's" threats against local teachers. Belaunde stated that if the teachers of the city of Ayacucho and particularly those of the provinces are scared, the most educated resident from each community will be asked to teach at the local school. "Schools will definitely not be closed because education is the most important thing for the people and Ayacucho cannot go without it," Belaunde stressed.

Belaunde also called for unity among all political parties of Ayacucho to attain a lasting peace and help the people of the city and of the Department of Ayacucho to overcome their problems. Belaunde also pleaded with the Ayacucho community to restore unity and he then asked himself "What does this local war want and where will it take us? It will take us nowhere," Belaunde said to himself.

The president said that the government is not oblivious to Ayacucho, quoting as an example the number of projects that the government is carrying out in that problem-stricken area. Belaunde said that nothing will stop the government from building things, noting that two bridges will be built for each bridge blown up by the terrorists.

PRC AMBASSADOR DENOUNCES ACTS OF TERRORISM

PY031500 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] PRC Ambassador to Peru (Hu Huang) has said that his country opposes terrorist acts and that it does not support subversive movements which call themselves Maoists. (Huang) talked to reporters at the conclusion of a protocol meeting with Valentin Paniagua Corazao, president of the Chamber of Deputies. The Shining Path terrorists define themselves as followers of Mao Zedong. The PRC ambassador said: We oppose terrorist acts as well as interventionism.

PRESIDENT BACKS 'MODERATE' OIL PRICE DROP

PA082250 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 5 Mar 83 pp 1, 7

[By Victor Aviles]

[Excerpts] President Miguel de la Madrid last night said that a moderate oil price drop would provide the country the opportunity to absorb its effect "without drastic modification of economic policy. Some adjustments would be necessary, but none of radical proportions."

De la Madrid added that his government will maintain an active oil policy in solidarity with OPEC, which has prevented a break in the talks and avoided a price war harmful to both producers and consumers.

The president pointed out that the reduced foreign income due to the oil price drop "will be balanced in good measure by a drop in interest rates."

De la Madrid noted Mexico's important role in the conflictive international financial and oil scenes.

In finances, he pointed out, the $5 billion credit has helped the country not only partially recover its image abroad, but "set the stage" for other nations with similar problems, like Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela, to be considered "positively" by the international community.

Concerning the difficult international oil situation, the president said that "a drastic drop in the oil price would benefit neither producers nor consumers because, being speculative, it would pose problems of such magnitude that it would seriously affect the international economy."

Referring to the financial issue, De la Madrid noted that at the beginning of his administration, "the country was facing a critical situation concerning its debt, and the degree to which it was discredited abroad was cause for great concern." He said that the credit signed last Thursday consolidates the unpaid but due commitments of the last 4 months of last year, and those of 1983 and 1984.

He added, however, that these loans "have not totally overcome the problem of capital scarcity. The foreseeable availability is insufficient for high rates of import. Therefore, we cannot announce immediate normalization, although we have taken important steps toward that objective."

The president made his statement during a meeting with Mexican industrialists at Los Pinos.

FINANCE SECRETARY ON STATE OF FOREIGN DEBT

Effects of Oil Price Reduction

PA090235 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1250 GMT 8 Mar 83

[By Walker Simon]

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Finance Secretary Jesus Silva-Herzog has said that Mexico can "absorb a reasonable reduction in the (international) price of oil," something which he said, would occur one of "these days."

Asked about what a reasonable price reduction would be, he declined to answer, by saying: "Excuse me from answering that question."

The finance secretary told newsmen that at the current Mexican oil prices, the country this year will receive about $15 billion in revenues for its hydrocarbon exports, almost three-fourths of the export revenues, which have been estimated at $21 billion.

Financial analysts have estimated that each dollar that is reduced from the price of Mexican oil will cost the country about $550 million of the crude oil export revenues projected for 1983.

Deputy Finance Secretary Carlos Sales told this agency that the oil revenues are expected to be slightly higher, but that the $15 billion mentioned by Silva Herzog represent exactly the exports of crude oil sent for the U.S. Strategic Oil Reserve.

Mexico currently exports over 100,000 barrels of crude oil per day for the U.S. reserve, to a large extent as payment for an advance of $1 billion that the United States gave to this country in August, when it suspended payment on the capital of its huge foreign debt.

According to Silva-Herzog, Mexico will end 1983 with a current account deficit amounting to between $2 billion and $3 billion, a mere fraction of the negative balance of $14 billion registered in 1981. (He did not provide the total current account deficit for 1982). He added that an important factor in reducing the deficit is the commercial surplus of between $8 billion and $10 billion expected for this year.

Payment on the interest of Mexico's $80 billion foreign debt would total $12 billion this year, he went on.

Further, he said that imports this year would be less than last year, which, according to him, nearly totaled $14 billion.

Concerning the loan negotiations, he said that in addition to the "jumbo" $5 billion credit obtained recently, Mexico is trying to obtain about $1 billion from several multilateral institutions this year. The finance secretary said that Mexico is also negotiating additional loans for some $2 billion in a number of Western governments' export banks, such as the U.S. Eximbank.

Concerning the "jumbo" loan, he said that Mexico had already received an advance of $433 million. He added that an additional $1.7 billion would be withdrawn in mid-March. He explained that Mexico will receive the rest of the money in three parts: $1.1 billion in May, another $1.1 billion in August, and the remaining $1.1 billion in November. According to the foreign bankers, these withdrawals will depend on whether Mexico satisfies the conditions for economic adjustments imposed on it by the IMF.

Several U.S. finance officials have publicly expressed their concern that a drastic reduction in the world price of oil might force Mexico to renegotiate its 3-year economic pact with the IMF.

Although Silva-Herzog declined to predict the future oil prices in the world market, he did say that (the price reduction) "will be decided in the next few days."

Additional Details

FL081530 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0303 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Jesus Silva Herzog, secretary of finance and public credit, announced today that by the end of 1983 Mexico's foreign debt will be $85 billion and said the country has practically no short term debts at this time.

Silva Herzog said that we can now rest easy because if the cut in oil prices turns out to be reasonable the country's economy will be able to absorb it.

During a press conference held last night, the finance secretary said the country's debt took on a more favorable position through this renegotiation. He added that the bank of Mexico expects an increase in its foreign reserves.

Silva Herzog explained that if the August 1982 to December 1983 foreign debt payments had not been rescheduled, Mexico would have had to pay $16.4 billion but instead will pay $1,475,000,000. It would have had to pay $5.4 billion in 1984 but now it will only pay $1.3 billion, he stressed.

Elsewhere, he said there would be no problem in servicing Mexico's foreign indebtedness. He said the foreign debt payments will amount to 28 percent of government spending. He also addressed the import-export program and said there would be a selective process in foreign purchases.

He said the current account deficit will be reduced between $2 billion and $3 billion as a result of a considerable decrease in imports during 1983. For the first time we are going to have a trade surplus. As a matter of fact we already have it for the first months of the year, he stressed. He also noted that exports will not be concentrated in petroleum but in other sectors. He predicted there would be an extraordinary rebound in tourism.

The Finance Secretariat said that 1983 will be characterized by a dramatic change in current accounts as our deficit is reduced. He said an additional $6 billion had been acquired from exports.

TALKS HELD WITH BULGARIA ON INCREASED TRADE

FL090027 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2345 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Commerce Secretary Hector Hernandez Cervantes and Andrey Lukanov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic, have expressed the two nations' interest in increasing trade.

During the meeting, Hernandez Cervantes rejected the idea that it would be necessary to modify foreign investments, and pointed out that Mexico is willing to increase its acquisition of Bulgarian products if that nation imports greater quantities of Mexican goods.

For his part, Lukanov voiced his country's interest in increasing trade to strengthen the commerical flow and said one of the mechanisms would be the use of barter.

Likewise, the two officials agreed that the joint committee for bilateral trade should meet again in Mexico at an early date.

On another subject, it was announced that the tools needed to raise the level of trade will be prepared -- Mexico through the National Bank of Foreign Trade and Bulgaria through the State Exporting Enterprise.

Finally, the two officials indicated that broad possibilities for short- and medium-term coinvestments between Mexico and Bulgaria do exist, above all in the pharmaceutical and mining sectors.

SALVADORAN TALKS PROPOSED TO UN RIGHTS GROUP

PA081743 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1528 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva, 8 Mar (EFE) -- Today Mexico requested before the UN Human Rights Commission a "negotiated political agreement" between the Salvadoran authorities and the guerrilla and opposition forces.

The Mexican delegation presented a resolution drafted jointly by France and Mexico with the support of Algeria and Yugoslavia. The resolution will be voted on today along with a more moderate proposal drafted by Canada.

Ambassador Antonio Gonzalez de Leon noted that the Salvadoran Government's announced call to elections cannot end the "massive and systematic human rights violations."

"The central thesis," he said, "is that the bloodbath and human rights violations of all kinds that are occurring in El Salvador must be stopped." "Everything indicates," he added, "that there is no solution in sight, no military solution, which is why a negotiated political agreement is needed -- I insist on the word negotiated -- between the parties in conflict."

"The negotiations," the Mexican diplomat added, "must be carried out without the slightest foreign interference. All states must abstain from sending weapons to El Salvador, as the resolution requests."

"A fire," he said, "is not put out with buckets of gasoline and sending arms to El Salvador is, specifically, attempting to put out a fire with buckets of gasoline."

The text drafted by Mexico appears to have the support of a majority of the 43 members of the commission. However, several Western countries support the Canadian proposal, which recognizes the seriousness of the Salvadoran situation, but avoids proposing political solutions to the civil war.

IRANIAN HIJACKER INDICTED IN NUEVO LAREDO

PA082255 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 4 Mar 83 p 22

[Excerpt] Iranian citizen Hossein Shyrh Olya, who hijacked a U.S. plane and forced the crew to land in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas State, was indicted by the attorney general's office before Judge Jesus Arzate Hidlago of the Second District Court. The Iranian was charged with hijacking, illegal deprivation of freedom, holding hostages, and violating the federal law on firearms and explosives.

Olya, 37, hijacked a commercial U.S. plane on 15 February in Killeen, Texas. After forcing the plane to land in Nuevo Laredo, he turned himself in to the Federal Security Directorate.

HAVANA CITES PRESIDENT, PPP ON POPE'S VISIT

PA080143 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 83

[Text] In his welcoming address to Pope John Paul II, Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella voiced hopes that his holiness' visit to Central America would serve to end the divisions, hatred, sorrow and suffering affecting so many Central American families. The Panamanian people, De la Espriella added, are concerned over the increasing conflicts affecting the peoples of the area, to whose suffering no just human being can remain indifferent. De la Espriella noted that some bishops of the area have declared that the true root of all suffering is social injustice, which prevails in all our countries. We hope, he underlined, that the pope's message will soften the hearts of the mighty, who still resort to violence and injustice to impose their conditions, disregarding the changing times. The pope arrived in Panama early this morning, where he will remain for nearly 12 hours. Later, he will return to Costa Rica, from where he is scheduled to proceed to El Salvador and Guatemala on Sunday.

The People's Party of Panama noted in a published statement that Pope John Paul II's visit to Central America takes place at a time when the peoples of the area are struggling against social injustice and U.S. intervention. The Panamanian Communists exhorted the pope to help find a negotiated solution to the Salvadoran conflict and to enforce respect for the Nicaraguan people's right to establish the society they choose. They also asked the pontiff to recognize Belize's right to be independent as well as the Guatemalan and Honduran peoples' right to live in a climate of democracy and social justice.

PRD PLANS MASS RALLY AGAINST CONSTITUTION REVIEW

PA090350 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Mar 83 p 2

[Communique issued by Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] It is general knowledge that on 11 March 1983 the PEOPLE'S POWER plans to hold a GREAT MASS RALLY in defense of the 1972 Constitution in order to confront the opposition inside the reviewing committee that has been mutilating elements contrary to this maximum victory of the REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. These gentlemen want to submit a new constitution to curtail the economic, political, social and cultural gains obtained so far.

Since one of the fundamental ideas of our program is the defense, strengthening and improvement of the gains achieved over 14 years of the REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS under the leadership of GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS HERRERA, in which PEOPLE'S POWER is the fundamental Torrijist conquest, our PRD has decided to participate in this rally with its own personality, orientation and charisma, mobilizing the party membership and the great Torrijist masses of the Panamanian people.

Therefore, the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE invites all zone, district and corregimiento leaders, presidents of rank and file units and indigenous community leaders, who are not registered with our party but are conscientious of the gains guaranteed by the 1972 Constitution to participate in an urgent meeting on 8 March at 1500 at the JOURNALISTS' HOUSE [Journalist Union Headquarters] to discuss all the details for the 11 March rally IN DEFENSE OF THE 1972 POLITICAL CONSTITUTION.

[Signed] NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, PRD. Panama City, 4 March 1983.

NATIONALISTIC, POPULAR, INDEPENDENT, MULTICLASSIST AND UNITARIAN.

COSTA RICA

VOLIO TO TOUR CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES IN APRIL

PA081534 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez will tour several Caribbean countries during the second week of April. The purpose of his tour is strengthening relations with these countries. The tour will include Barbados, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and possibly St Lucia, Volio announced.

The foreign minister added that we have great interest in reaffirming our friendship ties with these democracies. In addition, Costa Rica is seeking to establish diplomatic relations with Caribbean countries with whom it has not yet done so, and the necessary contacts would be made during this trip.

One of the objectives of Volio's Caribbean tour is to expand the markets in these countries for Costa Rican products. Costa Rica feels that Caribbean markets are one way to increase our exports, and thus, the foreign minister will promote Costa Rican products at government levels. According to the plan, Volio's Caribbean tour will last more than a week.

EL SALVADOR

GARCIA PLEASED WITH PROPOSED U.S. AID INCREASE

PA090130 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2312 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia showed satisfaction today at the U.S. Government decision to increase that country's military and economic aid by $60 million, which must be considered Friday by the U.S. Congress.

General Garcia said that "this aid will allow us to implement our possibilities and guarantee our objective -- to win the war against the guerrillas, either by subversion laying down its arms or on the battlefield, which we do not want."

He noted that the rebels "must understand that there is another way; that the alternative is to struggle within the democratic system through elections."

The military leader gave assurance that the Salvadoran Armed Forces "can win the war, which was imposed from abroad. That war was not the military's initiative. Instead, we must wage it even against our will." He added that if the leftist sector decides to participate in the elections recently announced by President Alvaro Magana for the latter part of this year, "the armed forces will guarantee their participation, just as it did with those who participated in the 28 March elections."

"I believe that such an option should be considered seriously by the guerrillas, especially their leaders, as it is a great alternative proposed by the government and the armed forces," Garcia said.

Concerning an amnesty plan being drafted by the recently created official Peace Commission, General Garcia said it would be revealed soon, but gave no details.

Asked why the army is not represented on the Peace Commission as expected, the minister said: "It was not deemed convenient, so it was made up of independent persons."

The defense minister also admitted the existence of problems with the guerrilla fighting in the northeastern department of Morazan, where the armed forces are tracking down rebel groups, having recovered three towns that had been occupied by the rebels 2 weeks ago.

Garcia gave assurance that the situation in Morazan "is not serious;" that the armed forces "have taken measures to counteract the guerrilla actions."

The Salvadoran Army chief declared that the recent visit of Pope John Paul II was most satisfying. He also noted that the pontief "was clear concerning the dialogue. His holiness said that dialogue, wrongly used, can destroy and that when only used for propaganda purposes, it loses its validity," Garcia said. "What the pope said on reconciliation," he added, "is fully valid, as the rebels can set aside violence and agree to participate in the elections."

ARMY ANNOUNCES RECOVERY OF TOWNS IN MORAZAN

PA082219 Paris AFP in Spanish 1911 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 8 Mar (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Army today announced the recovery of the towns of Yoloaiquin, Osicala and Delicias de Concepcion in the northeastern Department of Morazan, 180 km from San Salvador, as fighting resumed following a brief truce Sunday during Pope John Paul II's visit. The military announcement asserted that the army inflicted heavy casualties on the guerrillas in their flight toward the north, during the counterinsurgency operation launched last weekend.

In the actions, the army used heavy artillery, rifle and infantry units supported by the Salvadoran Air Force which, according to an official spokesman, "played an outstanding role and was particularly instrumental in the success of every army operation.

At least 2,000 men were used by the military high command to recover that large sector of the northern part of Morazan Department, according to a military spokesman, who admitted that in order to gain their objective, the troops had to wage bitter battles that left an unknown number of casualties.

The fiercest fighting took place yesterday, with results described by military sources as "satisfactory." The spokesman also confirmed that the FMLN is carrying out its threats to destroy transportation and electrical installations as part of its sabotage campaign.

A military patrol was ambushed in San Martin, 15 km east of San Salvador, where many were wounded but none killed. Official sources also revealed that the rebels destroyed some 30 hectares of coffee plantations on the slopes of Chinchontepec volcano in San Vicente Department, killed nine persons.

A group of approximately 200 guerrillas, men and women, carrying weapons of various calibers, broke into the towns of Laguneta, El Salto and El Chile, in the same area, in search for food, and engaged in combat with members of the civil defense, killing some and capturing others.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran judicial authorities today revealed that on Sunday and Monday, there were no bloody incidents reported throughout the national territory, which was attributed to the presence in the country of Pope John Paul II. They regretted, however, that so soon after the visit they have had to renew their daily task of identifying persons killed through violence in various sectors of El Salvador. The National Police, meanwhile, have reported the arrest of a woman being investigated in connection with a supposed conspiracy to assassinate the pope during his stay in El Salvador.

CAYETANO CARPIO ON FMLN WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE

PA082013 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador -- Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Commander Marcial, member of the FMLN general command, has said that Salvadoran opposition is willing to start negotiations without conditions at any moment.

In his comments to the magazine APORTES, Carpio stressed that the search for a dialogue is a sincere wish and that it is a principle of the Salvadoran revolutionaries. He explained that if no progress in this matter has been achieved it is because the other side's decision does not depend on the rebel forces. He noted: We have been saying for some time that we want dialogue; everyone knows this.

Regarding the official refusal to hold negotiations with the opposition FMLN-FDR alliance, Carpio reiterated: The Salvadoran patriots advocate the proposal made last October, in which we clearly stated that any dialogue must be started without prior conditions.

FORMER GUERRILLA LEADER INTERVIEWED IN PANAMA

PA081650 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Mar 83

["Special Edition" program with Mayin Correa: Part 1 of interview with Alejandro Montenegro, former guerrilla leader of the Salvadorean People's Revolutionary Army; date and place of interview not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Were you ever trained, or was there ever a person in your group [changes thought] for instance, when you say: I did not have the chance to go abroad for training, where do you mean, train where?

[Answer] Support in the form of military training is received through both Cuba and Nicaragua, but mostly Cuba. Many leaders, many group chiefs have trained abroad, more specifically in Havana.

[Question] Do you know anyone who went to Cuba?

[Answer] Yes, former companeros who were in the Guazapa Front and commanders of the so-called joint command in Guazapa. Most of them had been to Havana.

[Question] How do they go to Havana? How do they get to Havana?

[Answer] Communication is established with Honduras, which is used as a bridge to get to Managua by land. They go from San Salvador to Tegucigalpa, then to Managua and from there to Havana.

[Question] What about before, when the Sandinist government did not exist? How was this done?

[Answer] Prior to the existence of the current Nicaraguan Government, training was not given abroad. In other words, everything began more massively, we might say, after 10 January, after the Nicaraguan revolution triumphed in 1979. From 10 January 1981 to this day, Cuban support has been more effective and Managua is used as a bridge.

[Question] How many people were there in your group? Tell us now about the composition of the FMLN. How is it organized; how are the various groups organized and what was the importance of the group you led within this front? Was it the biggest or the smallest; was it responsible for certain zones' did it carry out specific activities? Tell us now about the guerrillas organized and united within the FMLN.

[Answer] The two guerrilla groups that first emerged in El Salvador -- the Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] and the People's Revolutionary Army [ERP] -- date back to 1972 and 1970. Other groups emerged in later years.

The national resistance emerged in 1975 and the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, PRTC, emerged around 1973. The Communist Party of El Salvador is the oldest. If I'm not mistaken, it was created in 1930. All this time, however, from 1972 on, the various groups worked individually. There were even different views concerning the ways to solve the country's problems and what political paths should be taken. So there were both communication and relations, but there was no coordination.

It was not until mid-1980, more specifically around May, that the two leaders of the various guerrilla groups met to review the Salvadoran situation...[Correa interrupts]

[Question] They met where?

[Answer] They met in El SAlvador. This meeting was held in El Salvador. At the meeting, they agreed to form a front in which all the organizations would be represented through their top leaders. It was agreed that this organization would coordinate all the political and military activities, acting simultaneously throughout the country. The so-called Unified Revolutionary Directorate, DRU, was thus organized. The DRU is the FMLN's executive body.

[Question] So you became united. Were activities also divided up? I mean, terrorist activities, the violence, the kidnappings? Is this how this is done? How does this unity among the guerrilla groups function? Are specific tasks assigned to certain groups? What happened after unity?

[Answer] Once the activities are coordinated by the directorate, individual tasks may be assigned to each organization. For instance, the ERP may at some time be assigned some specific military activity in eastern El Salvador. At some other time, the FPL may be assigned some activity in the north. This is coordinated by the DRU. Agreements are reached there. What they term the war plan and the various missions it entails are decided there. Since the top representative of each organization is included in the DRU, the orders are issued from it to each of the organizations or to the forces that will carry them out.

Now, in the end, coordination is also the responsibility of each war front. Almost all of the fronts formed in El Salvador include representatives of all the organizations. For instance, the Guazapa front is not just one organization; it is not only the ERP. The five organizations that comprise the FMLN have their guerrilla rank and file in this front. So in this case again there is a joint command that coordinates the activities carried out in that entire (?area).

[Question] You have mentioned in passing that there was training abroad, meaning Cuba, by way of Nicaragua. You have also said that these trips to Cuba for training increased after the victory of the Sandinist revolution. You have said this without providing details or evidence. People will probably not believe you. Could you provide more details about this training in Cuba or Nicaragua, if not for military training, then for other matters connected with your role as a leader in this guerrilla movement? With whom did you talk, when did you go? Otherwise, you know how it is; they won't believe you. We must provide more details if we want to have credibility. You must say: I went on such a date, or no, I did not go, but I know so-and-so who went on such a date; he discussed this topic. Could you provide more details?

[Answer] Certainly.

[Correa] Friends, former ERP Commander Alejandro Montenegro will answer this question about how Cuba participates in the training and direction of the Central American guerrillas from Havana and Managua next Monday at 2200, in the continuation of this program. Montenegro will also discuss his disappointment as well as why he is a dissident in exile.

FMLN-FDR ISSUES DECLARATION FOR POPE'S VISIT

PA072011 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 2 Mar 83 p 24

[Paid advertisement entitled "FMLN-FDR Declaration on the Occasion of Pope John Paul II's Visit;" issued in El Salvador in February 1983 and signed by Jose Antonio Hernandez, FMLN-FDR representative in Mexico -- capitals denote boldface as published]

[Text] Pope John Paul II's visit to our country is a very important event in El Salvador's religious, social and political life. In view of this, the FMLN and the FDR are publicly stating their position on this matter:

I. CAUSES OF THE CONFLICT

The head of the Catholic Church's visit comes at a most dramatic time in our history. Proof of this are the more than 40,000 murders and the fact that over half a million Salvadorans have been forced to leave the country in the last 3 years; the severe economic, social and political crisis; and a war that has been prolonged mainly because of the U.S. Government's uncompromising attitude.

Under the current circumstances it is impossible to ignore the fundamental causes of our problems: First, the long-term injustices born of a system of domination that our people have had to endure. We share the pope's opinion that "the discord and divisions that are still troubling the country and creating new conflicts and violence have their real and deep seated roots in this situation of social injustice". (Letter to the Salvadoran bishops, 6 August 1982)

Second, the political violence carried out by those in power who, as John Paul II asserts, "resort to national security principles to make their brutal repression legitimate." This indiscriminate violence unleashed against our people does not respect priests, nuns or missionaries. The greatest figure in our country's entire religious history, Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, was felled by the murderous bullets of those who, blind with power and riches, are trying to prevent at all costs the creation of a new social order that would be more humane and just.

Third, the growing U.S. Government intervention in the country's internal affairs. Using a false concept of its own national security as justification, President Reagan's government insists on saying that our war is part of the East-West confrontation. According to statements made by important U.S. officials, it is evident that its military strategists and ranking Salvadoran Army offices remain determined to win a military victory by annihilating the people and their representative organizations. The consequences of this attitude is more death and more pain for the Salvadoran people, and in the end their slayers will not achieve the victory they hope for.

2. THE PEOPLE'S ANSWER

Our current struggle is historically justified by virtue of the cumulative unjust conditions imposed on our people, which are most dramatically expressed by the thousands of Salvadorans who have been murdered for claiming their rights.

As Monsignor Romero said: "When a dictatorship makes serious attacks on human rights and the common well-being of the nation, when it becomes unbearable and the channels of dialogue understanding and rationality are closed, the church speaks of the legitimate right to insurrectional violence."

Currently, the entire Salvadoran society is scarred by the war. To deny its existence and ignore the people as the leading actor in the struggle to achieve peace is a historical irresponsibility that will not contribute to a reasonable resolution of the conflict.

During 1981 and 1982, the government's army launched at least 50 large-scale extermination operations against the zones under our control, without gaining any victories. On the contrary, the FMLN forces have increased and are better trained now; the areas under FMLN control have been extended and consolidated; and the increase in the offensive capacity of the people's army is undeniable.

The correlation of forces in the war has shifted in our favor, which makes it absurd to try to deny the FMLN-FDR's advances and triumphs, which are definitely triumphs of the people's struggle.

3. A Rational Solution

However, this situation does not detract from our evaluations or distort our vision of reality. We continue to firmly believe that it is possible to find ways for understanding that will contribute to solve the greatest crisis our country has ever experienced. Nevertheless, we affirm that any political solution must be oriented toward solving the grave problems of our homeland and satisfying the people's just aspirations which have been denied for so many years.

We believe that peace is possible in El Salvador, that a rational solution can be found to the conflict if we unite all the efforts of those of us who promote the construction of a new social order based on respect for rights and the dignity of human beings. A calm and responsible understanding can result from dialogue between the sectors that, encouraged by good faith, are determined to participate in the construction of a new homeland in which a just peace prevails.

For more than 2 years we have proposed a political solution to the conflict. We have demonstrated irrefutably that our position is not a propoganda ploy and much less an expression of weakness. On the contrary, it is a sign of historic responsibility that interprets the sentiments and aspirations of our people. For the same reasons we emphatically reject the attempts to create confusion by sectors that, as a delaying tactic, hypocritically promote dialogue under unacceptable conditions.

We also believe that elections under the present conditions are not an adequate way for the people to express their sovereign will, as was demonstrated in the 28 March 1982 elections. To propose holding elections without discussing the fundamental problems of the country is like wanting to construct a house without a foundation. The elections are part of the solution buy not the solution itself.

We are aware that there are sectors which, without being part of our front, can and should contribute to forging a new homeland. There are political, religious and social organizations that must transform the suffering of the sectors they represent into active participation for the glory of our country. We invite these organizations to contribute to our proposal for dialogue.

We take advantage of Pope John Paul II's visit to reaffirm our willingness for serious and responsible dialogue, without preconditions for any of the parties, bearing in mind that under the present circumstances it is not possible to talk about modes of understanding unless one recognizes the necessary participation of our fronts as forces representative of the Salvadoran people, which they are.

4. The Right and the Pope's Visit

Our willingness to contribute to a negotiated political solution contrasts with the positions recently adopted by President Reagan's administration and by the Salvadoran Government.

While we reiterate our offers of dialogue, the U.S. Administration, through Secretary of State Shultz, arrogantly rejects a political solution before its own Congress. A few days later President Reagan himself, employing the most ordinary imperialist language, set up himself as judge and owner of our sovereignty, ascribing to himself the right to decide who may or may not rule our homeland. Meanwhile, his defense minister, Mr Weinberger, proposes that huge sums be sent to the army as military aid, and that the number of U.S. military advisers in our country be increased.

This is the U.S. Government's effort on behalf of peace in Central America! This is the contribution of Mr Reagan, "champion of the Western and Christian world," to the visit of his holiness Pope John Paul II.

While our fronts have considered with the utmost responsibility Monsignor Rivera Y Damas' request for a cease-fire during the pope's visit, General Garcia, the Salvadoran defense minister, publicly refuses to accept this, alleging that a cease-fire is appropriate only in the case of a war between nations, thus trying to ignore the real existence of a state of domestic war in which his forces are being defeated.

Finally, while our people are restoring Monsignor Romero's memory as the expression of their aspirations, the Salvadoran Government orders the removal of 12,000 posters in which the martyred archbishop appeared beside John Paul II Monsignor Rivera Y Damas himself had ordered these posters printed.

Happily, we have read that the pope's visit includes a tribute at Monsignor Romero's tomb in the cathedral. We salute his holiness' honorable attitude.

All these stances tell us clearly that neither the Salvadoran Government nor its supporter, Mr Reagan, want peace, but war. They do not favor a political solution, but the extermination of the people and their organizations.

5. THE FMLN AND THE POPE'S VISIT

Because the great majority of Salvadorans are Catholic, because we defend freedom of worship, because we respect our people's Christian traditions and in recognition of the supreme pointiff's hierarchy, we declare our willingness to hold a CEASE-FIRE in our military activities during the time that Pope John Paul II is in El Salvador, a cease-fire in combat areas and throughout the entire country.

We demand that the army and the Salvadoran Government publicly answer this gesture for our people's benefit and for that of all peoples of the world. We reserve the right to respond if the military forces attack us during the established cease-fire.

We especially demand respect for our people's physical and spiritual safety during the public activities that the pope will carry out in San Salvador. The criminal acts that the rightists carried out at Monsignor Romero's funeral are still fresh in our minds; therefore, we alert the people to the maneuvers and provocations that these sectors might carry out. They will be burdened with the historical responsibility and the people themselves will recognize their culpability. We will abstain from any military activity in the capital. We hope that Pope John Paul II's knowledge of the Salvadoran reality, revealed in this earlier documents, will prevent reactionary sectors from manipulating his visit as they wish.

We take this opportunity to pay homage to the thousands of Salvadorans who, committed to the preferential treatment of the poor, gave their lives, bequeathing us the beautiful testimony of their struggle and the unrenounceable hope for a Salvadoran homeland without injustice and without murderers.

We especially remember the great figure of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, whose anniversary we celebrate in the month of March. We remember his firm adherence to truth and justice dedication, that his assassins could not forgive. May his appeal, which expressed the anguish and hopes of our people: "In the name of God and in the name of this long-suffering people whose cries rise louder to the heavens every day, I beg you, I demand in God's name: Stop the repression!" at last become a reality.

His example, and that of all our martyrs, confirm our conviction that it is possible to find a political solution to the conflict and that we will overcome with our people's determination and ability to build a society in which peace, liberty and social justice prevail. UNITED TO FIGHT UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY

GUATEMALA

POPE JOHN PAUL II RETURNS FROM HONDURAS VISIT

PA090300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0250 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Pope John Paul II returned tonight to Guatemala City after an 11-hour visit to Honduras, practically completing his tour of Central America.

The pope arrived at La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City at 2025 (0225 GMT) from San Pedro Sula, northern Honduras, from where he sent a special message to the laymen who preach the gospel under church guidance and delivered a written message to the Central American workers.

Thousands of Guatemalans again lined the streets tonight in Guatemala City to welcome the pope, who will spend his last night on Central American soil. Tomorrow, Wednesday, the pope will travel to Belize and 3 hours later will return to Guatemala City to depart directly for Haiti, where he will end his pastoral tour through this convulsed region.

HAVANA: VATICAN, UNITY GROUP SCORE EXECUTIONS

PA081503 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] Pope John Paul II arrived in Guatemala on Sunday, for the fifth lap of his trip. He was welcomed by the head of the regime, General Efrain Rios Montt, and by church officials.

The high pontiff's visit to Guatemala takes place during particularly tense moments for the Central America nation due to the execution of six political prisoners which was recently decreed by the regime.

Shortly after the pope requested the commutation of the six prisoners' sentence, a request which the dictatorship did not honor, the Guatemalan Nunciature termed these executions incredible and deplorable.

During a press conference in the Costa Rican capital, the Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee denounced the executions as the tyranny's challenge to the pope's visit.

More Havana on Pope's Visit

PA082240 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Pope John Paul II returned to Guatemala City after a brief visit in Quezaltenango, capital of Quezaltenango Department.

Bishop (Oscar Garcia) welcomed the high pontiff of the Catholic Church, telling him that there are collective murders in Guatemala and that the regime annihilates whole Indian communities: Bishop Garcia reminded the pope that the Latin American bishops proclaimed preferential treatment for the poor at the Puebla Conference, and that priests, church representatives, catechists and religious leaders in Guatemala have been guided by it.

The pope had previously officiated mass in Guatemala City, where he proclaimed before more than 500,000 people that the Catholic Church has the duty of voicing its opinion in matters related to social justice and human rights. John Paul II had a short private meeting with Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt, who ordered the execution of six young men accused of participating in subversive activities, despite the plea for clemency from the Vatican made on Thursday.

HONDURAS

POPE JOHN PAUL II ARRIVES IN TEGUCIGALPA

PA081511 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1457 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Pope John Paul II arrived today in Honduras, the last leg of his Central American tour.

More on Visit

PA081756 [Editorial Report] Providing live coverage of Pope John Paul's activities in Honduras, Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish at 1646 GMT, on 8 March broadcasts the papal mass celebrated in front of the Suyapa Basilica, 8 km from Tegucigalpa. At 1715 GMT, Pope John Paul II begins his homily. In Spanish the pope greets the clergy and people present and speaks in honor of our Lady of Suyapa, noting that Mary has many names in the various countries he has visited. He recalls that Jesus advised his disciples to honor Mary, his mother. The pontiff continues discussing Mary's importance as a symbol of the Catholic Church and as a role model.

Pope John Paul II urges the people to reject everything that is contrary to the gospel, including hatred, violence, injustice as well as the imposition of ideologies that reject the dignity of humankind. He concludes that Mary represents the theological virtues which should characterize all Christians; faith, hope and charity. He exhorts the people to be faithful to their catholic duty to honor Mary, symbol of hope and consolidation.

Tegucigalpa Domestic Service further reports from San Pedro Sula that President Suazo Cordova, in bidding farewell to the pope at airport ceremonies declares "no process, no motive, not even the blood that has been shed used as justification for maintaining a climate of violence, can be more powerful than our peoples' fervent desire to obtain and maintain peace. I extend to you a sincere and reverent farewell with the deep-seated conviction that on leaving this beautiful land, you will remain with us for all our lives." The pope then departs for Guatemala City.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON NOTES SENT TO U.S. ENVOY

PA090402 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Communique issued by Foreign Ministry Information and Press Directorate on 8 March 1983 -- read by unidentified speaker]

[Text] Two notes addressed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz were delivered by the Foreign Relations Ministry to U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton today. In the two diplomatic notes, the Nicaraguan Government denounces the criminal actions perpetrated during January and February 1983 by the counterrevolutionary bands which operate from Honduras with obvious support from the Reagan administration.

The notes emphasize that during those 2 months Somozist guardsmen harassed border posts of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, rural towns and coffee areas with a toll of 55 dead, of whom 47 were vilely murdered. Outstanding among these cases was the massacre of three children 8 to 13 years old and, more recently, the killing of the 17 young reservists of the 19 July Youth. In addition, nine members of our heroic border guard troops fell in combat in the performance of their duty.

It is also pointed out in the notes that during that time Nicaragua suffered 14 violations of its airspace by planes and helicopters from Honduran territory. Finally, it is noted that, once more, Nicaragua reiterates its determination to continue struggling to strengthen peace in Central America but without prejudice to enforcing Nicaraguans' right to defend their freedom, independence and territorial integrity with all means admitted by international laws.

POPE PRAISED FOR 'CANONIZING' ARNULFO ROMERO

PA082230 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Commentary by Carlos Chamorro Coronel: "The Pope Canonizes Oscar Arnulfo Romero; the Martyred Bishop of El Salvador"]

[Text] Of all the things that Pope Wojtyla has done or failed to do during his tour of Central America, the most important was his public recognition of the eminent virtues of sanctity of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the martyred archbishop of El Salvador. Leaving the metropolitan cathedral in San Salvador, John Paul II said publicly that Archbishop Romero had been a good shepherd and martyr who had sacrificed his life for his sheep. In other words, the pope publicly declared Romero a martyr of the Catholic Church.

Some will say that it is not right to speak of canonization, but they forget that in the old primitive church, people became saints in this manner, by popular acclamation, which was later officially ratified by the appropriate church authority. This process has now become complicated because of the very complex Vatican bureaucracy, which often delays and even hinders the causes of those individuals who are not to its liking or who do not enjoy its sympathy, usually for political reasons. This time, however, the case is different. For the pope himself, at the site of the events, has declared Romero a martyr for defending his sheep, like the good shepherd he was. Furthermore, a martyr also gives testimony with his blood, to some cause. In this case, the cause is either the defense of the poor or the liberation of the oppressed. By canonizing Oscar Arnulfo Romero de facto, the pope is canonizing his cause, which was the theology of liberation. This is the strongest rejection of those who challenge Romero's cause because they are selfishly defending their own material interests.

With this action, the pope condemned Monsignor Romero's assassins, who have continued torturing those for whom he died. It is, therefore, a source of joy and happiness for the entire Christian and persecuted people of El Salvador and of all Latin America. Well, now we can say: Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero, pray for us.

NICARAGUANS IN COSTA RICA VIEW POPE'S VISIT

PA072003 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 6 Mar 83

[Text] The night of Friday, 4 March, international news agencies released a dispatch from San Jose, Costa Rica, that detailed a meeting that Nicaraguans residing in Costa Rica held in front of the Nunciature in San Jose to welcome Pope John Paul II on his return from Nicaragua. The organized rally was to reiterate the Nicaraguan people's support of the pope, the Nicaraguan church and its pastors, headed by Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo.

With posters, Nicaraguan flags and slogans, the Nicaraguans asked the pope to try to forgive the offenses to which he was subjected in our suffering country.

Pope John Paul II should understand that he was not insulted by the Nicaraguan people, but by the bunch of atheists who are running the country today. They were the ones who staged that vile show, of which we the Catholic Nicaraguans are ashamed, and also because it was in our country that Pope John Paul II was subjected to such offense. We are sure that John Paul II understands and is also aware of our country's existing situation. For this reason we beg him to forgive and pray for our people.

The international dispatch places special emphasis on John Paul II's words on his return from Nicaragua when addressing the thousands of Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans who had gathered in front of the Nunciature in San Jose. He told them: Let us pray for the true Christians in Nicaragua. He then blessed all those present at the Nunciature.

The same dispatch reports the presence of members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, board of directors, in the rally, who joined their fellow citizens in their feelings and joy in welcoming the pope upon his return from Nicaragua and to ask him to forgive the offenses received in their country.

Some of the Arde leaders were interviewed in front of the Nunciature by local and foreign correspondents, to whom they reiterated their total disapproval of the vile and criminal action carried out by the nine puppets of the USSR and their corrupt clique.

Alfonso Robelo Callejas told newsmen that he strongly condemned the shameful act in Managua because it denigrated the personality and image of our people, who are eminent Catholics and believers.

Commander Eden Pastora also told the newsmen that those who insulted the pope during the celebration of the mass were a minority manipulated by the Sandinist dictatorship. They were given orders to boycott the pope's visit, Pastora assured. The real Nicaraguan people were not present; only those whom the Stalinist-type government approved were allowed in the church, Pastora added. Everybody knew that the Sandinist dictatorship controlled the entrance to the church and that the Nicaraguan people, the true Catholics, were not allowed anywhere near, Commander Pastora pointed out.

Groups were trained to shout those slogans that have damaged the image of the Nicaraguan people, showing absolute disrespect for the vicar of Christ, God's representative on earth, by the communists who today are in power in Nicaragua, Pastora said. Had there been any doubt of what is happening in Nicaragua, today it is clear what type of regime is ruling in Nicaragua, Pastora concluded.

RODRIGUEZ ON U.S. ACTIVITY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PA082222 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 2 Mar 83 p 3

[Article by Manuel Alfonso Cabanas]

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and of Ministers of Cuba, has said that the Mexican-French proposals for peace in El Salvador have been seriously hampered by the Reagan administration, which has supported fraudulent elections in that Central American nation based on the belief that the insurgents had been eliminated.

Rodriguez said that to the contrary, the People's Guerrilla Force in El Salvador is continuing and growing more each day. He added that "the United States cannot bring about a military solution in El Salvador or in Nicaragua." He agreed with the Mexican position that the only path to regional pacification is political negotiation if one wishes to avoid more bloodshed and the danger of regionalizing the Salvadoran conflict.

In an interview with Mexico's cultural television station [not further identified], Carlos Rafael Rodriguez remarked on the same subject that "there is still a real danger of imperialist aggression against Cuba and that it will exist until the United States renounces the use of force. As long as it has not done so, "we must suppose that it will use force at any moment," Rodriguez said. [quotation marks as published] That is why Cuba is prepared for defense.

However, the Cuban vice president said that Cuba has one very important form of defense: Defense by the forces of the entire international community. He added that the fact that the Latin American peoples have not supported the aggressive behavior against Nicaragua, as they did in the past with Cuba, is symptomatic of a new correlation of forces. Indeed, even within the colossus of the north itself, there are important forces that oppose the Reagan administration's plans for Central America and the Caribbean.

In addition, Rodriguez said that the economic situation of the developing or Third World countries is more dramatic today than ever because of the capitalist crisis. There have never been times of such misery, hunger and backwardness in the world as now.

HAVANA FORESEES NONALIGNED CONDEMNATION OF U.S.

PA090015 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 8 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The group of Latin American and Caribbean countries attending the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference which began on Monday in New Delhi, the capital of India, has expressed its decision to outline clearly and categorically the reasons and the causes of the serious political, economic and social crises being faced by the peoples of the region. These problems, it was announced, will be explained at the meeting in line with the spirit and letter of the Managua Declaration.

In January, a ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries was held in the capital of Nicaragua. The final document approved there condemns the United States for its acts of aggression, political interference and economic blackmail against the nations in the area.

The Latin American and Caribbean delegations reached an agreement on their positions in this regard in Managua and they agreed to draft by consensus the amendments and additions to the Latin American portion of the document that will be the New Delhi declaration.

It was learned that the draft document presented by India, as the host country of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit, will be expanded from 17 to 35 paragraphs. Most of the Latin American delegations have said that the conclusions of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference should reflect the spirit and letter of the Managua Declaration. Those nations agree on the need to emphasize the political and social crisis of El Salvador at a time when the imperialist government of the United States plans to increase its military aid to the Salvadoran dictatorship and is even talking about participating directly with men and weapons in the war against the people of that nation.

In order to explain more clearly the situation existing in that Central American country, a delegation of the FMLN and the FDR is in the capital of India.

Some of the proposals of the group of Latin American countries have already been presented to the Political Commission of the conference. These also include a proposal dealing with the acts of aggression to which Nicaragua is being subjected by counterrevolutionary individuals acting from Honduran territory. Another amendment denounces the political repression that the Guatemalan people are experiencing and states that that country is also a dangerous focus of regional tension.

These and other interesting topics on the current political, economic and social situation in Latin America and the Caribbean were discussed by Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and of Ministers, when he addressed the first plenary working session of the summit meeting.

As outgoing president of the Nonaligned Movement, a post that he held for 3 and 1/2 years, Fidel Castro gave a detailed report of the work done by the movement in that period of time and said that Latin America has become a focus of danger to world peace in recent years.

The Cuban leader denounced the United States for being the direct cause of the dramatic economic, social and political situation that the Latin American countries are enduring today, and he particularly emphasized Washington's interference in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

The Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference will end this weekend and, according to political observers, the active participation of the groups of Latin American and Caribbean nations is an indication that the final document of the meeting will clearly denounce the causes and those responsible for the crisis with which the peoples of our America are afflicted today.

U.S., NETHERLANDS ROLE IN SURINAME CRITICIZED

PA082315 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 7 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Ernesto Che Guevara, the heroic guerrilla, labeled U.S. imperialism as the principal enemy of the peoples of the world. The action of U.S. imperialism has been particularly intense and dangerous in our America.

This is the case with Suriname, whose revolution is being subjected to strong economic pressure by the Netherlands in complicity with the U.S. Government.

The Suriname authorities have also reported that there are clear indications that the United States and the Netherlands are preparing aggression against this country. Recently Colonel Daysi Bouterse, leader of the Suriname Revolution, said in Paramaribo that the enemies of the Suriname Government are preparing a mercenary invasion sponsored by the government at The Hague.

In a statement made over a domestic radio and television network, Bouterse said that these conspiracy plans involve former head of government Henk Chin-A-Sen and former Foreign Minister Andre Haakmat, who now live in Holland.

The invasion, he said, demonstrates the impotence of the former colonialist power and is intended to stop the process of social and economic change that is taking place in Suriname. Bouterse said that after 300 years of colonialism and in the face of the threat of armed aggression, the people can respond only by uniting. He also reported on a massive campaign that the government will implement to establish antimercenary committees. These will be established in industries, cabinet ministries, schools and offices throughout the country.

The chief of the Suriname revolution announced the end of various internal restrictions imposed after the frustrated [words indistinct] and reported on the resumption of classes in the national university.

In San Jose, Suriname Foreign Minister Harvey Naarendorp also denounced the plans of the counterrevolution, supported by the Netherlands and the United States, to militarily attack Suriname. He said that mercenary troops are being trained for this purpose in Miami and the Netherlands. On an official visit to Costa Rica, Naarendorp revealed a series of economic and political actions undetaken against Suriname by the Netherlands since last year. He affirmed that in spite of the difficulties being imposed by the enemies of the people, the Suriname revolution will invariably continue with the present process of social and economic changes that have broad popular support.

PCC GREETING TO ITALIAN COMMUNIST CONGRESS

PM090925 Venice L'UNITA in Italian 4 Mar 83 p 9

[Apparent text of Communist Party of Cuba message to PCI Congress]

[Text] On this occasion, provided by the holding of your 16th congress, we are pleased to convey the Communist Party of Cuba's [PCC] message of solidarity to the Italian Communist Party [PCI]. We take advantage of this particular moment to renew to you our fraternal feelings of friendship, consistent with the level of existing relations between our two parties. The PCI's growing influence with our country's people and state is a fact obvious to all. Behind this influence there lies the Italian Communists' abundant tradition of struggle and vigorous work aimed at forging ties with the working class and people's sectors. Behind it, too, lies the tradition of the antifascist struggles waged by the Italian Communists and -- supporting the party's growing influence -- its tenacious defense of the legitimate aspirations of the Italian working class and people.

The world economic crisis being experienced by the capitalist system and forecast by the scientific predictions of Marxism-Leninism is reaching exceptional levels, and affects not just part of the world, but the vast majority of the earth's countries. Comrade Fidel Castro, addressing the United Nations on behalf of the Nonaligned Movement in 1979, proposed a combination of measures, including the need to finance the developing countries' independent development.

He explained then that as industrialization and progress extend in the poor countries, so too does trade, and pointed out that the growth of the market has historically been the most dynamic force in world economics. The present economic crisis and the foreseeable disaster will be resolved only when there is worldwide realization of the need for a radical change in the nature of economic relations between developed capitalist countries and developing countries.

The rapprochement between the developed West European countries and the independent Third World states is a necessity not only for the latter, but also for the former. The understanding of this issue is a key topic in the modern world. The problem lies in the fact that a correct understanding of this need can be gained in Western Europe only by the working class, the communist parties and the leftwing forces as a whole. Therefore, the unity of the developed European countries' working class with the democratic, people's and socialist movements of Asia, Africa and Latin America constitutes a factor of strategic importance in the world in which we live. The PCI -- the strongest communist party in the capitalist countries -- has played and can continue to play more and more forcefully, a very major role in this endeavor. For these same reasons, it is necessary to develop the broadest unity among the socialist countries, the developed capitalist countries' working class and the Third World national liberation movement.

We live in an era full of both hopes and dangers at the same time. Within the European scenario itself, we have seen the growth of a broad movement of protest and rejection against the NATO decision, imposed by the United States, to deploy several hundred new medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads in Europe. We appreciate the full value and extent of the significance of this movement, which in Italy has prompted demonstrations that display its extent and the degree of the masses' awareness of the danger implicit in this imperialist decision.

There is no question that the grave situation of international tension, threats and dangers looming over mankind stems from the aggressive policy of the most reactionary circles that control power in the United States. The imperialist U.S. Government's complicity in the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, its backing for South Africa in its counterrevolutionary actions against Angola and Mozambique and the moral and material support provided by the United States to Britain during its colonial adventure in the Malvinas, as well as its full responsibility for plans of aggression and action against Nicaragua and direct support for the Salvadoran and Guatemalan regimes are some recent examples of imperialist conduct in places where the peoples are seeking just solutions to their most legitimate interests.

At the same time, our enemies are contriving conspiracies and misinformation against us. The information and news media in the hands of out-and-out international monopolies are creating a state of mistrust in certain West European countries with respect to the Cuban revolution, socialism and the countries that have chosen an independent path for their development. This virtual ideological war stems from the policy of confrontation that imperialist reaction is unleashing against the forces of progress, peace and socialism. It is essential to develop an international cooperation plan between the West European communist, socialist and leftwing forces as a whole and the countries that have chosen an independent path in Asia, Africa and Latin America so that we can exchange information and jointly tackle the press campaigns against socialism and against our independent and democratic states. This is because basically such campaigns are directed not only against the Third World progressive countries, but also against democratic and socialist ideas in Europe.

This is why we believe that there is no more pressing and priority task than the efforts directed toward causing the failure and retreat of these regressive and warlike forces. In the face of the threat of war and of the intervention of imperialism and reaction, efforts to consolidate the unity of all progressive forces committed to preventing the attainment of the imperialist plans acquire particular importance.

From our trench as a socialist, Latin American, Caribbean and nonaligned country, we greet the 16th PCI Congress once again and wish it success in its proceedings which, we are sure, will constitute a further major contribution to the intense activity carried out by the Italian Communists.

CEMA TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION MEETING OPENS

FL081320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] The 28th CEMA Scientific-Technical Cooperation Meeting opened yesterday at Havana's Palace of Conventions. The event, which is slated to hold sessions until Friday, will include in its agenda a wide range of topics related to cooperation among member countries in the area of science and technology as well as the training of cadres and the important subjects of energy and fuels.

Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the party Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, was in charge of the event's official opening. Fernandez said that our country proposed to take advantage of the technology of other countries, quickly introduce innovations in practice and strengthen its scientific potential.

CIENFUEGOS MARKS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

FL090237 [Editorial Report] Havana domestic Television Service in Spanish at 0137 on 9 March begins color coverage of a ceremony being held at the Lazaro Pena Auditorium of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions Building to commemorate International Women's Day.

As coverage opens, the stage curtains are drawn and the Cuban anthem is played. Sitting at the presiding table are Osmani Cienfuegos, Vilma Espin, Guillermo Garcia and many other Cuban party and state officials.

Announcer Manolo Ortega sets the scene by explaining that all members of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Cuban Women are sitting at the presiding table.

Ortega introduces Cienfuegos, who begins speaking at 0141 GMT. In his speech, he quotes statements by Cuban leaders praising revolutionary women of today and yesterday. He criticizes the old Cuban society which denied women the right to equality with men. In sharp contrast, he says, the Cuban revolution today allows women to play an important role in all branches of society.

Osmani praises the Soviet women who died fighting in the motherland war, those who man their posts at work centers and all those who work in other important areas of government. Comparing Cuban women to their Soviet counterparts, Osmani Cienfuegos says Cuban women have done and continue to do their duty in production and in the defense of the fatherland.

Cienfuegos cites several types of work that Cuban women do today that they had never before even attempted. He urges women to continue to work in society side by side with men. He calls on them to make an effort in savings of raw materials and energy sources. He voices solidarity with women from all parts of the world, country by country, citing the repression they endure or the advantages gained through a revolutionary process.

Cienfuegos ends his 45-minute speech at 0226 GMT.

Ortega then announces that Vilma Espin wants to make a statement. Espin begins her statement at 0227 GMT to propose a message for Fidel in New Delhi, expressing their support for his marvelous speech. She reads the message she proposes and all women present unanimously endorse its contents. Espin ends her statement at 0231.

FORMER MINISTER EVALUATES POLITICAL SITUATION

FL071735 Bridgetown CANA in English 1717 GMT 7 Mar 83

[This article issued under CANA's Caribbean Opinion series which analyzes issues and topics of regional significance]

[By Frank Campbell (a former Guyana diplomat and cabinet minister)]

[Excerpts] To many people, the Guyanese political scene today might resemble the closing days of the Isabella Peron government in Argentina when the political situation appeared to be begging for a small coup d'etat to bring the tottering government to a decent and decisive finish.

Guyana, however, is not Argentina. And Forbes Burnham is certainly no Isabella Peron. Recent Guyanese history teems with examples of Burnham's ability to make the political bounceback. One example which comes readily to mind is the 1977 sugar strike which can be considered the last major attempt by the opposition People's Progressive Party to bring down the Burnham government.

To ascribe his longevity and resilience to the tough politics for which he has become renown would not be a total injustice. He himself has declared publicly that politics is no Sunday-school game. But tough politics is only half the story. The other half is the agony of a weak, castrated opposition.

PPP leader Cheddi Jagan told me in a recent interview that his party's membership had fallen to its present low level because of "PNC victimsation" and so on. There is evidently much truth in that allegation. The PNC perhaps more than many Commonwealth Caribbean ruling parties, has effectively used power and patronage as primary political tools. Nonetheless, Jagan's formulation is too simplistic a statement of the political artistry of the PNC government -- at least of the political artistry of its finer days.

Particularly during the early years of the PNC government, efforts were directed towards neutralising, rather than brutalising Jagan's political supporters. The Indian rice farmer, who had been persuaded that any PNC government would destroy the Indian-dominated rice industry out of sheer political and racial cussedness, soon saw that one of the government's first major international loans was being used to rehabilitate the rice industry.

Yet, if Burnham has been able to neutralise the Indian community politically and to obtain from many of them at least the benefit of the doubt, Jagan's sojourn in the opposition has lost him what little dregs of African support he previously had. If anything, the fear of a return to the "Jagan days" has for most of the time helped to keep the Afro-Guyanese community within political range of the PNC. With the Indians neutralised by economic policy and the Africans immobilised by political history, Forbes Burnham has had a captive congregation during most of his 19 years at the prime ministerial pulpit.

Whatever Burnham's failures and successes, race politics took a positive turn during his premiership. And so both by his successes and by his failures, he laid the basis, and established the possibility of the multi-racial, extra-parliamentary Working People's Alliance (WPA). The WPA has presented the PNC with its greatest political challenge since the mid-60's. During 1978 and 1979, the WPA tested, in the severest way possible, Burnham's political cunning and his party's use of patronage and power.

Not even the silence of the governmental media could erase from the blackboard of history the phenomenal turn of support at that time from the PNC to the WPA. In the end, though, poor Chedi Jagan lost out more than Burnham did.

Many of the crowds which the PPP lent to the WPA -- at Rodney's funeral, for example -- in its publicly admitted campaign to help the WPA to grow, apparently lost their way, and so did not return to the PPP.

The WPA finally in turn lost out to the PNC for three major reasons. In the first place, the WPA was never a party and could not afford to be, at least at that time. Its only clearly articulated doctrine, apart from Rodney's call for clean, unifying, democratic government, was that "King Kong must go."

Thousands and thousands were -- attracted by this spicy political idiom to the WPA. Many were turned off and turned away however, by the absence of a clear manifesto for the resolution of the severe problems facing the country.

The second reason for the WPA's downfall was the eruption of the Burnham political instinct following the burning down of his party's headquarters which it shared with the Ministry of National Development. His conviction that the WPA was the author of what one WPA leader called "a fine job" raised up all the harshness of that -- Burnham instinct.

Burnham remained politically silent -- but by no means inactive -- for months, leading the WPA to believe that it had gained the upper hand. In his only public appearance during that period -- the opening of a regional trade union conference -- he conceded no more than half a phrase to local politics.

Then came the third biennial congress of his party -- one of the largest and most successful in the party's history. The holding of the congress more or less on the original date was intended to prove -- and prove it did -- that the party, admittedly supported by the governmental machinery, could overcome the destruction of party headquarters, the destruction of records and a period of low membership morale.

The post-congress rally represented an emotional outburst and a political recovery for PNC die-hards, who for months had been frightened into silence by the political -- but not only political -- onslaught of the WPA.

"They have awakened a sleeping giant," said the PNC leader in a cruelly misreported, but in any case a politically fierce, address to his comrades:

The third cause of death of the WPA was the fortuitous turn of economic events during that party's fledgeling months. The WPA was at its strongest late in 1978 and early in 1979 when, with world sugar price hitting the floor, the supermarket shelves had no milk, no cheese, no toilet paper, no soap, no anything.

But the launching of the WPA, unfortunately for its leadership, was followed closely by the only significant increase in sugar price since the mid-1970's. The fear of associating with the WPA, which has eventually generated in the minds of black Guyanese particularly, and recognition that the WPA had no identifiable doctrine were supplemented by the slow withering away of that party's strong economic platform.

Ironically, now that the supply situation in Guyana is worse than during 1976/79, the opposition, new as well as traditional, is too weak to exploit that situation.

After conversations, formal or informal, with leaders of the PNC, the PPP, and the WPA, I have no doubt that the PNC's political machinery is at best asleep, at worst paralysed. Yet the PNC remains the only party in Guyana with a national machinery!

Indeed, the only political force within Guyana capable of overthrowing the PNC is, I suspect, the PNC itself. Aficionados of the Guyanese process might therefore have to concentrate much of their attention on evaluating the extent to which the PNC avails itself of that monopoly.

CHIN-A-SEN CITES COMMUNIST INFLUENCE ON BOUTERSE

PA082320 Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Caracas, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Henk Chin-A-Sen, president of the Council for the Liberation of Suriname, said here today that many Surinamese emigres "are waiting for the struggle against the dictatorship to begin in order to join it." Suriname is the most unstable country in South America and Chin A Sen said that its government, under President Daysi Bouterse, "is dominated by international communism." Chin also said that Cuban President Fidel Castro and Bouterse have met secretly.

"The Surinamese Government is influenced by Cuba, and there are Cubans within that government," he said. After stating that Suriname is a platform for Cuba to infiltrate the rest of South America, Chin said that at first, discreet Cuban cultural missions traveled to Suriname, but now there is an open flow of Cubans. Chin said that in 1982, Paramaribo and Havana signed an agreement to align their policies, which marked the course of the Surinamese revolution headed by Bouterse.

Chin-A-Sen, who was first prime minister and later president of Suriname, said that he agreed to cooperate with the Bouterse regime 2 months after the revolution that brought him to power, in the belief that the provisional government would give Suriname "a new democracy." "When I realized that the military did not intend to relinquish power and keep the promises of greater democratization of the country, I decided to resign in February 1982," Chin said. He added that as a high-ranking government official, on the other hand, he thought that he could eliminate the corruption in the government at the time "and other disastrous influences, like the religious influence." Referring to the situation in his country, he said that in 1982 resistance was "greatly strengthened" by peasants, students and businessmen, who staged strikes and other demonstrations in repudiation of the government. However, in December of that year, he continued, the government burned the offices of several newspapers and labor unions, "tortured and murdered resistance leaders and the publishers of newspapers, and the mutilated bodies of the victims were found in the streets!" Chin said that Netherlands lawyers who carried out an investigation learned that many people were tortured and killed in Suriname. Finally, Chin-A-Sen said that the Council for the Liberation of Suriname will not stage a violent struggle against the Bouterse regime, but a peaceful one through labor union opposition and international denunciation of the crimes committed by the Paramaribo government.

INVESTIGATORS HAVE 'GRAVE DOUBTS' ON 8 DEC DEATHS

PA081725 Paris AFP in English 1659 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Georgetown, Mar 8 (AFP) -- Two members of the International Jurists Commission have left neighboring Suriname for the United States after investigating the alleged killings last December of prominent Surinamese citizens by the military, informed sources here said today. Reports from Suriname reaching diplomats here said the two members on the Geneva-based organization left with "grave doubts." They reportedly learned that "some of those killed," -- including lawyers, former cabinet members and journalists -- "were tortured and executed." The jurists added that there was "not enough time nor opportunity" to meet a number of people on their list, including Colonel Daysi Bouterse, who heads the former Netherlands colony's ruling military junta. Colonel Bouterse is attending the Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi. Representatives of the organization plan to return to Suriname sometime in the next six weeks to meet Colonel Bouterse and other officials, the sources said. The military claims that the men killed on 8 December were shot dead while attempting to escape from police custody.